WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

A network management system, comprising:

a network;

a plurality of telephony devices coupled to said network; and a server, said server including an auto-discovery unit configured to make a determination of the presence of configurable components associated with said plurality of telephony devices on said network by communicating with said telephony devices, said server further configured to provide a graphical user interface (GUI) based network map of said configurable components, wherein said server is further configured to make a determination of configuration information to others of said configurable components.

2. A network management system according to Claim 1, said autodiscovery unit configured to automatically make said determination of said presence of said configurable components and propagate said configuration information at predetermined intervals.

3. A network management system according to Claim 2, wherein said auto-discovery unit is accessible from a device on said network.

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4. A network management system according to Claim 1, said plurality of telephony devices including responder units, said responder units configured to provide said configuration information to said auto-discovery unit and to receive updated configuration information to said auto-discovery unit and to receive updated configuration information from said auto-discovery unit.

5. A network management system according to Claim 4, said responder units comprising HTTP (hypertext transfer protocol) servers.

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1	6.	A network management system according to Claim 5, said	
2	respo	onder units comprising cgi-bin like programs.	
1	7.	A network management system according to Claim 6, wherein	
2	said	responder units are configured to provide said configuration	
3	inforr	mation to said auto-discovery unit in XML format.	
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1	8.	A network management system according to Claim 2, wherein	
2	said (graphical user interface comprises a Java applet.	
1	9.	A network management system according to Claim 2, wherein	
2 :	,	said graphical user interface comprises a dynamic HTML page.	
1	10.	A method for managing a network including a plurality of	
2>		telephony device, comprising:	
3		automatically determining the presence of configurable	
4	comp	components associated with said plurality of telephony devices;	
5		receiving configuration information from said plurality of	
6	telep	hony de √ ice≰;	
7		automatically propagating said configuration information to	
8	other	others of said purality of telephony devices at predetermined intervals;	
9	and		
10		displaying a map of said configurable components.	
1	11.	A method according to Claim 10, wherein said determining the	
2		presence of said configurable components comprises using	
3		ping.	
1	12.	A method according to Claim 10, wherein said receiving	
2		configuration information comprises receiving said configuration	
3		information in HTTP format.	
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- 1 13. A method according to Claim 10, wherein said displaying a map
 2 comprises providing a graphical user interface for entering
 3 configuration information.
- 1 14. A method according to Claim 13, wherein providing said graphical user interface comprises providing an HTML page.